COMPUTER CAMP CHRONICLES

ATARI COMPUTER CAMPS NEWSLETTER SUMMER 1983 VOLUME 1, NO. 3

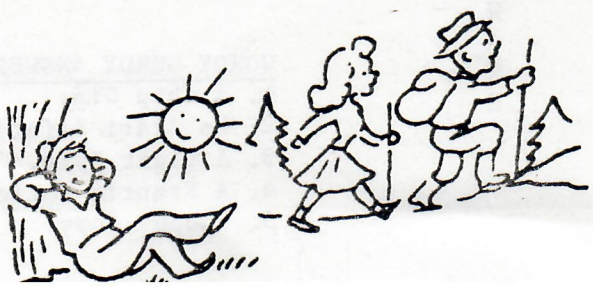
COUNTDOWN TO SUMMER!

Summertime is nearly upon us! When we began publishing the newsletter back in wintry December, it seemed as though June would never arrive, but here we are with the opening of Atari Computer Camp just a few short weeks away!

As you start to think about packing tennis rackets, swimsuits and T-shirts, rest assured that we are busy finishing last minute preparations for camp as well. Boxes with everything from ATARI equipment to volleyballs to paintbrushes are stacked high, waiting to be opened; computer tables are being set up, kitchen pantries stocked, and beds made. Members of our camp staff have finished their special training program and are set with wonderful ideas for making this summer a memorable one for everyone. In short, all signs point to a FABULOUS season at Atari Computer Camp and we can't wait for it to begin!

The only thing missing is you! Whether you are registered at Camp Atari-Poconos, New England, Smokey Mountains, Chesapeake, Midwest, Old West or Pacific, we're counting the days till we meet, and looking forward to a terrific summer.

See you soon!



THE WINNER!

Congratulations to Mike Bercaw (Camp Atari-Poconos) for providing the winning name for our newsletter! One hundred seventy-three Atari campers and staff members voted "Computer Camp Chronicles" as their favorite of the eight newsletter nominations. We're delighted with your choice!

SOUND ADVICE

Here's some exciting news: Maria Smith (Camp Atari-Pacific) was recently chosen as a member of the Atari Youth Advisory Board.

The advisory board consists of 20 young people whose names were submitted by high school principals and computer science teachers from across the United States. Maria is in the company of young people from many backgrounds, including award-winning film animators, aspiring ballerinas, football team captains, and even a television star! (Todd Bridges, who plays "Willis" in T.V.'s Different Strokes, serves on the board.)

Maria was quoted in Atari Life: "I've learned that there are a lot of young people who are concerned with what kind of effect computers are going to have on their futures. I didn't think that so many young people cared."

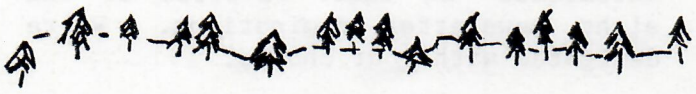
Congratulations, Maria, from everyone at Atari Computer Camps!

STAFF NOTES

Our computer teachers and directors are linked together via a computer telephone network, and have left some special messages for all of you. Here are a few:

ART TIMMINS (Camp Atari-Chesapeake) has taught computers and mathematics in middle school and high school for many years. Art says, "I love kids and I love computers. What a perfect combination for camp!"

STARLINE JUDKINS (Camp Atari-Smokey Mountains) is returning for her second year on the Asheville staff, and is looking forward to seeing some familiar faces, as well as meeting new friends. Star is a native North Carolinian and thinks the Smokey Mountains are a great place for a summer camp. She says, "I think camp will be even better than last year. I hope everyone has a safe trip to camp and is ready for the experience of a lifetime!"



PAUL OWEN (Camp Atari-New England) has been teaching fifth-eighth grade for the past ten years. He has his Masters in school administration, and is currently teaching an ATARI computer lab half-time and doing administrative work half-time. Paul is very much looking forward to a terrific summer with everyone at Camp Atari-New England!

JEFF CATHERS (Camp Atari-Old West) will be working as an On-Site Expert at our camp in Danville, California. Jeff was a computer instructor at the Poconos last summer, and he is looking forward to another super camp season. Says Jeff, "I can't wait to meet all of you! The program looks outstanding!"

LAURIE EDWARDS (Camp Atari-Midwest) is living in California, but is originally from Chicago. She has never visited Minnesota before, and is very eager to see the beautiful facilities at Shattuck School in Faribault. Laurie tells us, "I'm looking forward to getting acquainted with all the Midwest campers and enjoying a great summer learning with all of you at Atari Computer Camp."

THIS 'N THAT

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

If you have friends who still have not enrolled at Atari Computer Camp, there are still openings during some sessions. To enroll over the phone, call toll-free, 800-847-4180 (in New York call direct 212-889-5200), or write us at: Atari Computer Camps/ 40 East 34th St./ New York, NY/ 10016.

Hurry and sign up today!

NIGHT OWLS

Because many of you will want to work on your computer projects in your dorm rooms, we recommend that you bring a small desk lamp to camp. Overhead lighting is, of course, provided in all rooms.

COMPUTER CROSSWORDS

Check your answers to last issue's Computer Crossword Puzzle with ours below:

```
    P I L O T
          U
      D O R M I T O R Y
          T
      H   L     P       S
    C A F E T E R I A   W
      R     E   O       I
      D     N   G       M
      W     N   R     M M
      A     I   A E R O B I C S
M E M O R Y   S   M     V N
      E               I G
        S             E
      J O Y S T I C K S
        F
C O M P U T E R
        W
        A
        R
        E
```

WORDY GURDY ANSWERS

1. A Chip Dip.
2. An Atari Safari.
3. A Light Byte.
4. A Frantic Antic.
5. Floppy Copy.

CAMP DIRECTOR GREETINGS

BOB WERNER (Camp Atari-Poconos) says: "Since the last newsletter I have had the opportunity to speak to many campers from last summer. I was happy to find out that so many of you are returning this year! I'm very anxious to meet you all because of the great variety of interests and abilities I found out about - karate brown belts, musicians, members of school sport teams, leads in school shows, etc. This summer should be really exciting and we should have lots of interesting things to share!"

LEN FAGEN (Camp Atari-Chesapeake) writes: "As the weather warms and tells us summer is coming, I look forward to camp. Camp means new friends, new experiences and many memories. I hope we can share all of these this summer. So let's start dusting off our summer gear and prepare for a great season at Camp Atari!"

MARLENE AND DON APPLEBAUM (Camp Atari-Old West) send their greetings: "The grass is greener, the buds are starting to pop, and before you know it, IT WILL BE SUMMER! Both of us are really getting anxious now and looking forward to the opening of the most successful camp season yet. We have great plans for exciting activities in the hills of Northern California's Camp Atari-Old West, and hope you are just as enthusiastic about the upcoming summer as we are!"

JERRY SINGER (Camp Atari-New England) reports: "I had the pleasure of visiting camp on a beautiful afternoon in March. There were some wonderful surprises, such as an art studio with skylights for direct lighting and a gym suitable for a college basketball team! Walking through a wooded area, I found an obstacle course with balance beams, climbing ropes, a Burma Bridge and climbing walls all designed for beginners as well as experts. New England campers will find their surroundings delightful, and we can all look forward to a terrific summer!"

BILL MERRIMAN (Camp Atari-Midwest) sends this note: "I'm sure that all of you will find the Shattuck School and its marvelous facilities a wonderful summer home away from home. From golf to waterskiing, we have a great program to offer at Camp Atari-Midwest! In addition, we'll all get to use the new ATARI® 1200XL™ computer, with its many advanced features. So enjoy the warmth of spring and get set for a summer of bits, bytes, adventure and fun!"

JEFF WOLFE (Camp Atari-Smokey Mountains) sends this greeting: "SUMMER IS COMING! Right now I'm preparing a program that will fill your days with both learning and fun. Along with the absolute best in computer instruction and a host of traditional camp activities, we will be involved in some fun new games such as 'Human Pinball,' 'Blob,' 'Siamese Soccer' and many others. I'll be doing everything I can to give you a summer camp experience that you will long remember."

MARIANNE & BILL KRAVITZ (Camp Atari-Pacific) report, "The summer is rapidly approaching and we cannot wait to meet the many campers enrolled at Camp Atari-Pacific. So many wonderful things are planned - for the computer room, playing fields, gymnasium, arts and crafts room - and we are as excited as you are about all of them! Have a terrific end-of-the-school-year, and we'll see you in San Diego!"

JUST FOR FUN

WORDY GURDY

Test your skill at this wacky word game! The answers to wordy gurdy questions must have the same number of syllables and must be rhyming words. For example: What would you call a running relay held on the moon? Answer: A space race.

Hint: All of the wordy gurdy answers below relate to computers. The answers are at the bottom of the page, so...good luck!

1. What do you serve as a snack to computer scientists?
2. What is another name for a computer trek?
3. A small meal is a _____
4. A wildly excited chip is a _____
5. Another name for disk reproduction is _____

LIMERICK

Said a mellow old robot named Newman,
"When men do not act with acumen,
But are clumsy and coarse
I consider the source,
And remember that they're only human!"

DAFFYNITIONS

MICROFICHE: A minnow.

PRIME NUMBER: The most tender and juicy kind of number, as certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

TERMINAL: The condition of a computer just before it dies.

ANALOG: Where you are just before you fall off a log.

LOVE: An infantile human disorder to which computers are as yet immune.

Can you think of some computer wordy gurdies of your own? How about an original limerick, poem, or a daffy definition? We'd be happy to publish your efforts! Send them to:

Computer Camp Chronicles
Atari Computer Camp
40 East 34th St.
New York, NY 10016

COMPUTER TIDBITS

There are many situations in which you may want the computer to be able to keep track of time. For example, you may write a program which only allows a certain number of seconds for the user to respond. Luckily for us, the ATARI has a built-in clock, but it isn't that easy to read.

There are three locations in memory that are used to keep track of time. Every 60th of a second (1/60), one is added to the number in location 20. After this number reaches 256, it starts over at zero, but one is added to location 19. And after location 19 reaches 256, it starts over at zero and one is added to location 18.

We can use this information to calculate the number of seconds since the computer was turned on:

```
SECONDS=INT((PEEK(18)*65536+PEEK(19)
*256+PEEK(20))/60)
```

If we want to start our clock when our program starts, rather than when the computer is turned on, we have to do a little more work as is done in the following program. Try it.

```
10 OLDSECONDS=0
20 START=INT((PEEK(18)*65536+PEEK
   (19)*256+PEEK(20))/60)
30 SECONDS=INT((PEEK(18)*65536+
   PEEK(19)*256+PEEK(20))/60)-START
40 IF OLDSECONDS<> SECONDS THEN
   PRINT SECONDS:OLDSECONDS=SECONDS
50 GOTO 30
```

FORMS, FORMS

TRAVEL QUESTIONNAIRES AND MEDICAL FORMS

If you have not already done so, PLEASE RETURN YOUR TRAVEL QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE NEW YORK OFFICE (address: Atari Computer Camps/ 40 East 34th St./ New York, NY 10016). Camp staff members will meet your plane and transport you to camp, but we must know when and where you are arriving! This is a very important item -- please make your travel plans as soon as you can, and return the travel form to us promptly.

MEDICAL FORMS ARE A MUST AS WELL. Please fill them out and send them off as soon as possible. Thanks.

CAMPER NEWS

It is always such fun keeping track of all you are doing. So many of you have kept in touch -- here is just a sampling of what Atari campers have been up to:

The computers in your schools and homes must be humming! John Lafferty, Craig Goldblatt, Greg Sprung, and Kenneth Rosenberg are writing their own programs at home to help with their school work. The Atari Program Exchange (APX) is publishing a program written by Matthew Levie, and David Dresden won a prize in the Stamford, CT Science Fair for his display of the inner workings of the computer. David Hehmen has put his computer knowledge to work by starting his own business selling computer mailing lists. We are delighted to see the many ways you are using the things you learned at camp!

You all seem to be quite busy keeping your athletic skills sharp for camp, too. Andrew Cavaseno made the baseball team at his school, David Kwon, Candace Shockley and David Borowsky are still hitting the ski slopes, and Jill Peterson is perfecting her golf game and doing gymnastics. Drew Sable and Todd Witkoff are on their schools' lacrosse teams and Robert Schmidt is a member of his school's award-winning swim team. Watch out for Joshua Shaub and Mark Hemmis: Joshua is a top-notch wrestler and Mark has his brown belt in karate!

The creative features of Camp Atari - music, dance, drama, and arts & crafts - should be especially attractive to these talented campers: Joshua Green plays first trumpet in his school band, and David Halpern has the lead in his school's production of "South Pacific." Christopher Kassas plays the violin in an orchestra which toured Canada, Carrie Young is taking voice lessons, and D.J. Reed has been painting and woodworking. I hope you all plan to pack your artistic talents into your duffle bags this summer!

Working hard in school and participating in extra-curricular activities seem to be important to many of you. Ari Paparo and Lawrence Bogad have made the honor roll at their schools, and Jason Gardner was elected Student Council President. Harry Stone has achieved second class status in his Boy Scout troop. Congratulations, guys! Kevin Liddell and Craig Margolies are members of their schools' Atari Clubs, and Craig even appeared on television to talk about telecommunications!

Adam Resnick has built his very own computer table, and Max Ziger is spending time with his new companion, a pet hamster! Finally, Jeffrey Greene, James Kim, Miguel Rivera and Geoffrey Taubman asked us to extend special greetings to all their Camp Atari friends.

We love hearing from you! Please continue to keep us posted on all your activities by sending your letters to:

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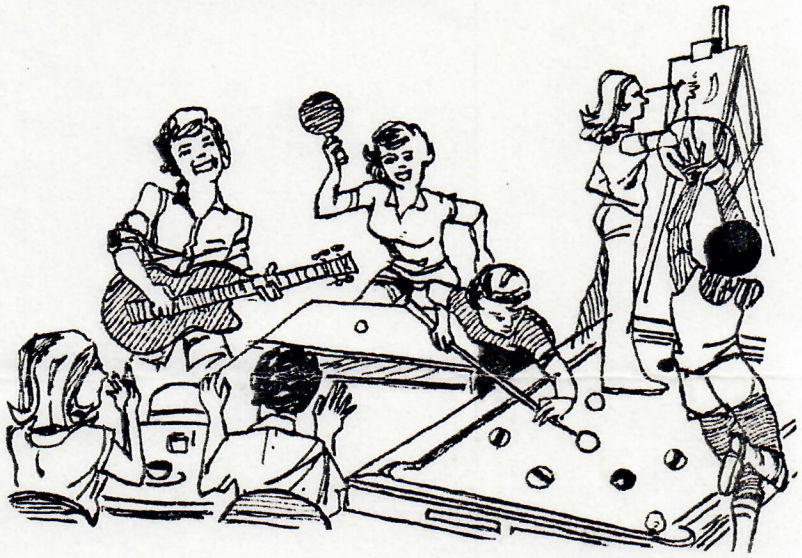

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